

## 2014 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Ready for Notebook

Tab	Action	Option	Version
74	2	A	1

**Budget Action Title:** Requesting HSD to pursue partnership funding for regional senior services and develop a policy framework for Seattle specific enhanced services for older adults.

**Councilmembers:** Budget Committee

**Staff Analyst:** Michael Fong

Date		Total	SB	BH	TR	RC	TB	NL	JG	SC	MO
	Yes										
	No										
	Abstain										
	Absent										

### Statement of Legislative Intent:

As part of the 2014 adopted budget, the Council appropriated \$225,000 of GSF to backfill Federal Sequestration and State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) reductions to a range of services for older adults and people with disabilities. These reductions impact services provided to residents throughout King County as part of the Area Agency on Aging (AAA). The \$225,000 appropriated should be sufficient to restore potential cuts to services for Seattle residents. The AAA is administered by the City of Seattle's Human Services Department (HSD) and co-sponsored with King County Government and United Way. This SLI provides guidance to HSD to advance policy objectives related to the AAA and ongoing GSF support for aging services and calls for HSD to report back to Council the progress related to these issues in 2014.

#### A) Partnership Funding

The Council requests that HSD and OIR pursue and develop potential partnership funding options with King County, United Way and suburban cities to backfill Federal and State reductions to AAA services. The goal is to identify matching funds for the City's GSF support to maintain the pre-reduction service levels of 2013. The City's contribution to backfill Federal and State reductions should be commensurate with the impact on Seattle residents. This is estimated to be approximately one-third of service cuts identified during the HSD 2014 budget review process.

With partnership funding, the Council expects that next year's proposed biennial budget will include GSF funding for no more than one-third of the cost to backfill the anticipated regional aging services funding gap for 2015 and 2016.

HSD is requested to provide a written update to Council on progress related to partnership funding no later than August 1, 2014.

B) City Enhanced Aging Services Policy Framework

Concurrent with efforts to seek partnership funding, the Council requests that HSD develop a policy framework using the current Seattle-King County inter-local agreement on the City's enhanced public health service investments as a model for City enhanced aging services. If the City intends to continue backfilling Federal and State reductions to aging services overseen by the AAA with GSF, then a clear policy and agreement should be developed and formalized with the co-sponsors (King County and United Way) of the AAA to distinguish and track City enhanced programming from the baseline level of services to be provided across the county.

The purpose of any City investment in AAA services should be to enhance the programming above the level that would otherwise be provided county-wide with Federal and State funding without additional City resources. The Council is seeking a policy approach that avoids the use of GSF to inadvertently subsidize aging and disability services for non-Seattle residents of King County. HSD is expected to develop the policy framework and a plan and schedule for its implementation. This work should be carried out in coordination and consultation with AAA Advisory Council. The policy should be applied to any new GSF appropriations proposed in the 2015-2016 biennial budget to support AAA services.

HSD is requested to provide a written update to Council on progress related to developing a City enhanced aging services policy framework for AAA programming no later than August 1, 2014.

**Responsible Council Committee(s):** Housing, Human Services, Health, & Culture

**Date Due to Council:** August 1, 2014